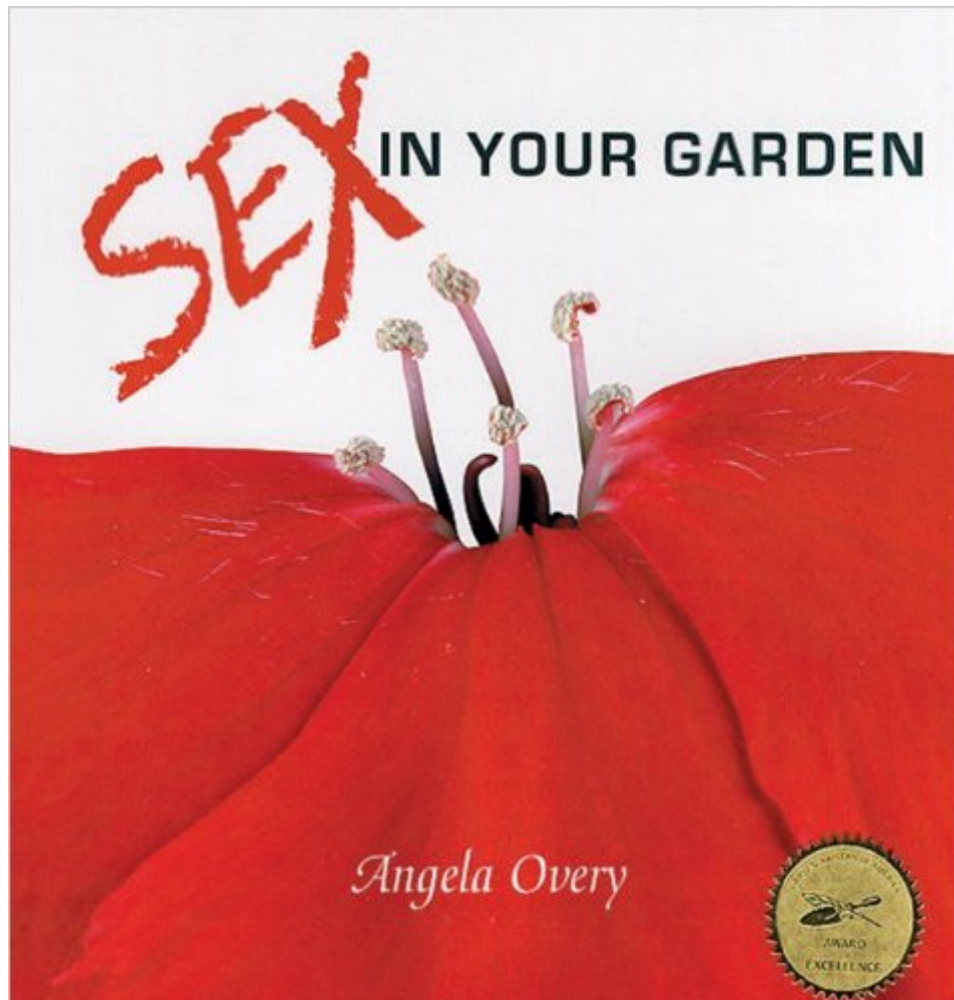


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Sex In Your Garden



Synopsis

This book takes a clear and concise peek at the reproductive processes of garden plants and their relationship to their various pollinators. Written with a flair for the humorous and a touch of the absurd, *Sex in Your Garden* is the perfect addition to any gardener's or botanist's bookshelf.

Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars Â Â See all reviews Â (17 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #265,129 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #10 in Â Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Gardening & Landscape Design > By Technique > Propagation & Cultivation #148 in Â Books > Science & Math > Biological Sciences > Plants > Flowers #243 in Â Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Gardening & Landscape Design > Flowers

Customer Reviews

This book is a riot! I never knew there was so much - and so varied - sex going on in a garden. I hated botany in school because it seemed boring. But reading this book was so much fun - it made learning interesting and downright hilarious. The pictures and illustrations are fantastic and funny too. I'm not even a gardener but I loved reading this. I'd recommend it for anyone who wants to have a some good clean/dirty fun and learn something to boot. It also makes a great gift - I gave it to several friends and they all thought it was fantastic too!

This slick little piece combines the principals of successful advertising with the sensual allure of professional-quality botanical photography. The basic principal being "Sex Sells." I'm not sure I could reasonably recommend this as an educational primer --although some of this information did show up on my Bio 101 lab tests-- but it's certainly an eye-opener as a coffee-table book! Basically, this book is a "how and why" book on plant reproduction spiced up with advertising's finest babe and hunk shots to illustrate general concepts. It does a fine job of portraying the plants in your garden as wild and raunchy, not to mention absolutely unscrupulous in the pursuit of their goals.

The author, Angela Overy, is absolutely shameless in her presentation --although, for the record, she does not cross the line into pornography: The occasional bras advertisement, and a strategically placed lily on page 47, but nothing worse than what you might see between the covers of Cosmopolitan. The book, by the way, is more an overview of propagation strategies than a detailed analysis of physiology. She does go through the naming of parts and the basics of sexual maturation in plants, but then veers off into the politics of inter-species cooperation. Namely, how plants blackmail, bribe, and proposition birds, bees, beetles, ants, slugs, and butterflies (to name a few) in order to ensure successful cross pollination. This book covers quite a bit of ground in its own irreverent way. It's got some interesting pictures depicting the color perceptions of several common pollinators, some very interesting material on Plan B strategies for pollination, and whole lot of really fascinating trivia. The juxtaposition of perceptions about plants and human sexuality is definitely attention grabbing, but it's the captions, which range from frankly informative to ludicrously suggestive, that make this book worth the cover price.

This is an amusingly written book with a catchy title. I much enjoyed the way the author writes tongue-in-cheek about plant reproduction and relating it, indirectly, to human. The illustrations and photographs are of high quality and add much to the effectiveness of the book. The content seems to me to be well researched and scientifically accurate but the treatment is light hearted. This would make an excellent gift for anyone interested in gardens and gardening.

I just got a copy of this book, *Sex in Your Garden*, and I have been pleasantly surprised. There is a huge amount of interesting factual material in it. It is a bit bold for some folks, no doubt, but it is all actually in good taste. I think that this book could be excellent as a way to introduce younger students to the whole idea of sex and plants, or plant sexuality if you will. This subject is one that needs to be understood much better than it is now. Unlike most botany texts on the subject, this one is in plain English and it is fun to read. Hard core plant scientists may object to its tone and some of the wording, but I don't think it was intended for them in the first place. I expect that this book would be a good tool for getting students from grade 7-12 interested in some basic botany. Actually though, it would be informative for all of us "grown ups" too. I'm the author of *Allergy-Free Gardening*, from Ten Speed Press, and am especially interested in plant sexuality as it relates to allergies. I'd have to say this book is much better than I expected and I that learned quite a bit from it myself. The drawings and photos are first rate too. All in all, *Sex in Your Garden* is a very useful, informative, fun book. I highly recommend it! Thomas Leo Ogren

I thought this book was going to be great! The whole idea of sexual reproduction in plants being, well, SEXY seemed like an awesome idea to me. The idea may have been great, but the execution wasn't. The layout looks like it was designed by a freshman yearbook staffer. The photos look like Cosmopolitan photo shoot rejects. The script is uninformative and even sometimes misleading. If you're an adult who has taken high school Biology and/or ever read anything related to gardening or plants, the information in here will not be anything new. And, okay, I know this is minor, but I ordered it as a gift only to receive a "new" copy that I wasn't comfortable giving as a gift because it was scuffed and the red on the cover had sun-faded to various shades of pink. So, disappointing. If you're looking for an interesting book about plant sexual reproduction and the implications thereof (no, this book isn't sexy either, but it knows it's not trying to be), I wholeheartedly recommend Michael Pollan's *The Botany of Desire*. It is readable by the average joe, yet full of information that is fresh and new even to the well-versed. Back to *Sex in Your Garden*. If someone had taken this fun idea and spent some time developing it with quality content, it could have been great! As it turned out, it was sadly just gimmicky.

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